THE DISSEMINATOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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responsibilities. Below are highlights of the decisions affecting Provincial Library. Copies of the Response will be sent out to regional libraries and a loan copy is available from Provincial Library.

- PL will continue to provide ILL locations service to all libraries in NS at no direct cost.
- PL will investigate the costs and benefits of charging for reference service for secondary clientele libraries.
- PL will investigate adding literacy and career resource collections to NcompasS.
- Department of Education Library will be retained at the Trade Mart
- A plan will be developed to add Department of Education Library holdings to NcompasS.
- A permanent position for School Libraries Coordinator will be staffed within the PL mandate and resources will be allocated for the position.
- An implementation plan will be developed to incorporate Education Media Services library database on NcompasS.
- A plan will be developed to make NcompasS available to all staff in the Department of Education.
- PL, in conjunction with the Cultural Affairs Division and the cultural community, will examine the possibilities and will recommend the most appropriate location and service functions for the specialized Culture Library collection.

INFORMATION CANADA '94

Elizabeth Armstrong attended the Information Canada '94 Conference in Toronto in late September. This conference, formerly called Computers in Libraries, drew a record number of attenders from the library, information and business communities. One of the major themes of the conference was Document Delivery, covering a range of topics from the issues of document delivery to charging for services. It was disappointing that many speakers talked about only the problems relating to document delivery while only a few dared to suggest some solutions. There were also some good sessions on Networking CD-ROM's and building gophers. On a personal note, both Lorraine MacQueen (lorraine@ccmd.org) and Terri Tomchyshyn (ttom@resudox.net) say hello to all who remember them and would be glad to hear from you.

ROLLIN', ROLLIN', ROLLIN'

Leslie Foster and Carole Compton-Smith have visited several regional libraries in the last few weeks to discuss Technical Services matters with various staff members. Those already visited include Western Counties, South Shore, Annapolis Valley, Colchester-East Hants and Halifax County. Upcoming visits will be made to the remainder of the regional libraries over the next few weeks.

AUTOMATED CIRCULATION FOR TALKING BOOKS

Ann Dunsworth, of User Services, has begun using the multiLIS circulation module for the talking books collection. As a result, those viewing the records for Talking Books on NcompasS will be able to see the loan status as well as the due date.

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY HOME PAGE PROTOTYPE

Provincial Library is planning to install a World Wide Web server on the RS6000 and is currently developing an outline of the information to be kept on the home page which will appear on the Chebucto FreeNet. Items being considered include: information about NcompasS; the Talking Book Catalogue; the Directory of N.S. Libraries; issues of THE DISSEMINATOR; and links to other home pages and organizations as well as other items. For a full list, please contact Leslie Foster (lfoster).

RECENT CHANGES TO THE OPAC

The following changes have recently been made to the NcompasS display.

- When records from banks 2 and 3 are displayed in the OPAC, the bank number now appears at the top of the screen immediately. We are working with multiLIS to create item records for the Halifax City and Dartmouth records so that the library name appears on the screen.
- In response to a request from Western Counties, the status of an item such as "available" or "for use in library only" is now displayed in the OPAC.

STAFF NEWS

Provincial Library welcomes Gwen MacNairn, our new Automation

Trainer, who began on Monday, October 24. Gwen is a certified teacher-librarian who has spent the past eight years designing and developing training materials for a wide variety of software products. Gwen will be spending her first few weeks getting acquainted with our operations and software and will conduct a training needs assessment of PL staff. She will also be available to assist regional libraries prepare automation grant applications.

Arlene Watts is currently on short-term leave from her position in User Services at the Provincial Library.

NOVAKNOWLEDGE STAKEHOLDERS ASSEMBLY

With the theme "Enable IT - Job Opportunities in Nova Scotia", the NovaKnowledge Stakeholders Assembly took place on October 28 and 29 in Wolfville. The Provincial Library was represented in two of the bellringer sessions. Carole Compton-Smith gave information on the Umbrella Organization for FreeNets in Nova Scotia and Gwen MacNairn conducted a session on Mapping on the Internet, to explain geographic sources available on the Internet.

PROFESSIONAL READING

We have recently added to our Professional Collection the following key documents which are of particular significance to public libraries.

1) Closer Encounters: Strategies for Effective School-Public Library Cooperation. Toronto: Ontario Library Association, 1989. (Prof 027 .4 Clo)
- This document is a compendium of articles, documents, form letters, program outlines and publicity which suggest many ways in which schools and public libraries can work together to meet their distinct yet complementary goals. This item has a related video "Closer Encounter", produced by the OLA Task Force on Cooperation Between Public and School Libraries.

2) Public Libraries and the Internet: Study Results, Policy Issues and Recommendations: Final Report by Charles McClure. Washington, D.C.: U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, 1994. (Prof 021 .650973 McC)
- This report, published by the National Commission on Libraries

and Information Science (NCLIS), examines the role of public libraries as a "Safety Net" for providing public access to Internet-based information and services. It is divided into four main sections beginning with an introduction to the role and importance of public libraries in an electronic networked environment. This is followed by a presentation of survey results, a discussion of study findings, and a presentation of key issues and recommendations for policy makers.

DATA RESEARCH COMPLETES PURCHASE OF MULTILIS

Data Research Associates, Inc. recently announced that it has completed its purchase of the library automation system and related assets of multiLIS for approximately $2.6 million. multiLIS will be providing various DRA services such as Open DRAnet which is the LC source file, bibliographic and authorities and a variety of third-party databases. In terms of support, a 1-800 line will be introduced and all North American support will be centralized in the Montreal office. DRA has developed a windows-based Z39.50 client which will be integrated with multiLIS. This single client interface over the internet will provide a common front end to a variety of databases around the world. DRA, headquartered in St. Louis, is a leading systems integrator, providing its own proprietary information services software as well as third-party software and hardware, networking services and other related services to libraries and other information providers.

REFERENCE TIP #254

Last month we included a story dispelling the myth about Dean Koontz's Book of Counted Sorrows. Here's another myth you might find interesting. There has been some discussion recently of Dedo, the newly-discovered gargoyle on the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. Rumour has it that Dedo was carved by a nun who thought that the original gargoyles on the cathedral were remarkably ugly. She created the alternative gargoyle while the cathedral was being built, and hid it in a secret place. The sculpture remained hidden for centuries "until a small boy exploring the cathedral's vastness tumbled down the roof and was saved by the littlest gargoyle perched on the edge." The story has now become a part of Parisian folklore and some U.S. mail order catalogues, such as Signals, have been selling a miniature replica of the gargoyle. A librarian in Illinois, faced with verifying the story, contacted the

manufacturer of the replica who admitted fabricating the entire story to "give it a little marketing pizazz". He says he is amazed that people took the story seriously. The story of Dedo is copyrighted, said the manufacturer, and he is thinking of producing a book and/or movie featuring the gargoyle. I guess all's fair in love, war and marketing!

E-MAIL WORKSHOP ON ADAPTING COMPUTERS FOR DISABLED

EASI (Equal Access to Software and Information), in cooperation with the Rochester Institute of Technology, is providing an e-mail-delivered workshop on making computing facilities and information technology more readily accessible to individuals with physical disabilities. All materials are delivered over the Internet, and the course lasts for three weeks. Workshops are scheduled to begin Nov. 9, 1994, Jan. 30, 1995 and April 17, 1995. Registration is $125, and RIT grants a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the course. To see a current syllabus for the workshop, send e-mail to listserver@listserv.isc.rit.edu with "info workshop" (without quotes) in the text. To register, send e-mail to listserver@listserv.isc.rit.edu with "sub adapt-it (and your first and last names in quotes)" in the text.

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That's it for this issue. Stay tuned . . . .

If you have any questions or comments about the activities mentioned, please contact the people involved. Readers are encouraged to comment on items found in THE DISSEMINATOR and/or make suggestions about content. These comments should be directed to Sue Dirani (sdirani).

Unless otherwise indicated, the "domain" for all e-mail addresses in this publication is: @nshpl.library.ns.ca.

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